IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,474 Confirmation No. 6873

Applicant : T. KIKUCHI et al.

Filed: November 20, 2003

Title : A CROSS-CONTAMINATION PREVENTION SYSTEM AND

AUTOMATIC ANALYZER WHICH EQUIP FOR IT

TC/AU : 3629

Examiner : M.S. Meyers

Docket No. : KAS-195

Customer No.: 24956

Mail Stop: **Amendments** Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 6, 2009

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 2, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time and the appropriate fee accompany this paper.